RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch **VOL 10 | Issue 11 | 30 Oct 2023**





Vik SharmaBranch Secretary

UNITED WE ARE STRONG!



A Win For Unity - Disamalgamation Update

The Fair Work Commission has now handed down its decision on the application for demerger filed by the Locomotive Division of the RTBU.

Acknowledging that **the RTBU has no record of non-compliance**, the full bench of the Fair Work Commission decided there were no grounds to approve the application to split our union

The full bench of the Commission has now handed down a well-considered decision and as a result, we will remain as one union.

This is a significant triumph for our union, reasserting the power of our collective across the entire industry in the face of attacks from officials who have been associated with other efforts to undermine the RTBU.

I strongly urge the officials of the Locomotive Division to work honestly, genuinely and collectively with the rest of our great national union so we can deliver the best outcomes for all members.

Now is time for these officials to refocus efforts towards supporting members constructively as one industry, one union.

V/Line Delegates Endorse Industrial Action

RTBU Delegates have voted to endorse a Protected Action Ballot Order should it be necessary to progress bargaining.

Having recently met with V/Line management, the RTBU Rail Divisions negotiating has continued to press members claims for a new V/Line Operations EA. With the Metro Operations EA now locked away, it is time for V/Line to get serious about delivering the improvements members deserve.

Having reiterated the RTBU's core claims, your bargaining team has ensured that management understands what is required to achieve industry standard conditions and provide future security for V/Line members.

These claims, further to the wider log of claims, include job certainty through

the classification structure, improved provisions for part timers, no forced redundancies, grievance clause and the 36 hour week.

On Monday 23 October we convened a meeting for all V/Line Delegates where I addressed key developments across the state relating to bargaining before a motion was unanimously passed to endorse a Protected Action Ballot Order (PABO) as required to progress these claims.

Protected Action Ballots can now be conducted via SMS and so it is critical that you update your details with the RTBU.

JAT -

Vik SharmaVictorian Branch Secretary



UPDATE YOUR DETAILS TODAY RTBU@RTBUVIC.COM.AU | (03) 8630 9100









VALE BRETT JACKSON

9 February 1975 - 17 September 2023

Brett Jackson was a well-respected and deeply loved Conductor, based at Bendigo. He was a staunch and loyal RTBU member through his 14 years in the industry.

Brett passed away after a hard-fought battle with Cancer.

Brett was the dearly loved husband of Laura and exceptional father to Sheila (Dec.), Jett and Pippa.

Brett touched the lives of everyone who knew him. Close friends and fellow Members at V/Line have shared the following memories and tributes of Brett:

"Brett was a true gentleman...

Whilst working late one evening by myself, Brett returned from Melbourne to sign off. He'd left to go home but realised he hadn't seen me before leaving, thinking I may have been in trouble Brett came back to check I was OK. I'll always remember his kindness and genuine caring nature. He will be truly missed."

"There is a saying at the Bendigo depot: WWJD - what would Jacko do?"

"Brett was a man of few words but was the kindest person, he never had a bad word to say. I will forever be grateful to have worked alongside such a great man."

"Brett was a gentle and giving soul."

"We are privileged to know and love a man like Brett Jackson."

"Brett was a highly esteemed teammate whose quiet, calm, and laid-back nature was simply a pleasure to be around. Brett's demeanour was a perfect fit for his role at V/Line. Nothing bothered him, nothing ruffled him, and he did his job in an effortlessly professional way."



"He was always looking out for everyone regardless of where they worked or the role they did. He always thought about the other person, it was never about him."

"He was an exceptional man."

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